

Message Text

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62

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00

ACDA-19 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

SAM-01 EB-11 IO-14 SWF-02 SCI-06 OMB-01 /147 W

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R 270120Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7702

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 0604

DEPTO 20

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH)

SUBJ: ANZUS COMMUNIQUE

REF: WELLINGTON 589 (DEPTO 10)

FOL REPRESENTS FINAL VERSION OF COMMUNIQUE AS
APPROVED BY ANZUS COUNCIL AND RELEASED TO PRESS ON
FEBRUARY 27, 1974. SEVERAL REVISIONS MADE TO EARLIER
DRAFT SENT REFTEL REFLECTING DISCUSSION AT COUNCIL
MEETINGS.

ANZUS COUNCIL MEETING, WELLINGTON

26-27 FEBRUARY 1974

COMMUNIQUE

THE ANZUS COUNCIL HELD ITS TWNETY-THIRD MEETING
IN WELLINGTON ON 26 AND 27 FEBRUARY 1974. SENATOR
THE HONOURABLE DON WILLESEE, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, REPRESENTED AUSTRALIA; THE HONOURABLE KENNETH
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RUSH, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, REPRESENTED THE UNITED

STATES; AND THE RIGHT HONOURABLE NORMAN KIRK, PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPRESENTED NEW ZEALAND.

2. THE MINISTERS, RECALLING THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL SINCE THE CHANGES OF GOVERNMENT IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, EXCHANGED VIEWS ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AS WELL AS STRATEGIC CONCERN TO THE ANZUS PARTNERS. THEY NOTED THAT THE RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE THREE COUNTRIES, BASED AS IT IS I ON A SUBSTANTIAL COMMUNITY OF INTEREST AND A SHARED HERITAGE OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF LAW, IS AMONG THE MOST ENDURING FEATURES OF THEIR FOREIGN POLICIES. THE ANZUS TREATY AND THE REGULAR CONSULTATIONS FOR WHICH IT PROVIDES ARE ANATURAL EXPRESSION OF THIS RELATIONSHIP.

3. THE MINISTERS WELCOMED THE PROGRESS TOWARDS DETENTE AMONG THE MAJOR COUNTRIES. THE NOTED THAT PLICIES OF DETENTE GAVE OTHER COUNTRIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THEMSELVES. THE COUNCIL WELCOMED EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND MORE RECENTLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS WITIN THE ASIA/PACIFIC REGION. THE MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF REGIONAL COOPERATION AND SELF-RELIANCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AS EXAMPLIFIED IN PARTICULAR BY THE INCREASING STATURE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS. THE MINISTERS INDICATED THE DESIRE OF THEIR COUNTRIES TO ASSIST THIS COOPERATION.

4. THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE FIVE POWER DEFENCE ARRANGEMENTS CONTRIBUTED TO THE CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE AREA AND PROVIDED A USEFUL FRAMEWORK FOR PRACTICAL COOPERATION IN THE DEFENCE FIELD. THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT AS A RESULT OF A MAJOR REVIEW IN 1973 THE STRUCTURE AND ROLE OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIA TREATY ORGANIZATION WAS NOW BETTER SUITED TO TODAY'S CONDITIONS, AND THAT THE COMMITMENT REPRESENTED IN THE TREATY REMAINS IMPORTANT TO THE REGION.

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5. THE MINISTERS REVIEWED THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA ONE YEAR AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM. THEY WELCOMED THE ENCOURAGING PROGRESS TOWARDS POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN LAOS. WHILE GRATIFIED THAT THE SCALE OF FIGHTING IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAS GREATLY DIMINISHED, THEY REGRETTEED THE CONTINUING LOSS OF LIFE AND EXPRESSED THE DESIRE THAT ALL PARTIES WOULD

STRICTLY OBSERVE THE CEASE-FIRE. THEY REITERATED THE HOPE THAT THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WOULD BE RESPECTED. THE COUNCIL DEPLORED THE CONTINUING TRAGIC FIGHTING AND DESTRUCTION IN CAMBODIA AND CALLED ON ALL CAMBODIAN PARTIES TO NEGOTIATE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT.

6. CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION AND TRADE AND TO THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF RECENT EVENTS UPON THE ECONOMIC STABILITY OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC REGION. THE MINISTERS CONSULTED ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS, AND AGREED ON THE NEED FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN PRODUCING AND CONSUMING STATES TO MITIGATE THE SERIOUS EFFECTS OF THE WORLD'S CONTINUING ENERGY SHORTAGE, AND ON THE LONGER-TERM NEED FOR MORE RATIONAL USE OF THE WORLD'S ENERGY AND OTHER IRREPLACEABLE RESOURCES. THEY FURTHER NOTED THAT A MAJOR EFFORT IN CONSTRUCTIVE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WOULD BE REQUIRED WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL BODIES TO COUNTER DISRUPTIONS OCCURRING IN THE WORLD ECONOMY, INCLUDING TRADE AND PAYMENTS, AND MINIMIZE THE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE ECONOMIES OF THE REGION. THEY SAW THE NEED FOR A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THESE DIFFICULTIES SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO DIMINISH THE FLOW OF REAL RESOURCES TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC. THE MINISTERS UNDERLINED THE GREAT VALUE THEY ATTACHED

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974WELLIN00604
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974024/aaaaaduq.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: WELLINGTON 589 (DEPTO 10)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 28 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 FEB 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <04 DEC 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANZUS COMMUNIQUE
TAGS: OVIP, (RUSH, KENNETH), (RUSH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005